

City Council of the Mayor and Council of New Castle
Special Council Meeting – 1 Municipal Blvd. – New Castle
Tuesday – January 4, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.

Present: Council President William Barthel Councilperson John Cochran
Councilperson John Gaworski Councilperson Ted Megginson

Absent: Councilperson Teel Petty

Also Present: City Administrator Cathryn Thomas, Finance/HR Director Marian Delaney

President Barthel called the meeting to order.

Background: Four potential vendors were schedule to make presentations on their proposals for upgrading and redesigning the City Web site. Due to some miscommunication, one vendor, DCA.net, was not going to present anything at this time, however could do a presentation in the near future if the Council wanted to look at what they had to offer.

One other vendor, Grace Traynor, provided some pricing options, however withdrew from her presentation appointment as she would not be able to provide any services to the City for at least the next 90 days due to other commitments of her company. Another vendor, Oliver Brown, withdrew from his presentation appointment due to the death of his mother.

Therefore, the City Council had one presentation provided from the company CivicsPlus, the format for which was on the Web and phone. Three separate pricing options are available, ranging from \$4,800 to more than \$15,000 for setup, and also had added fees ranging from about \$2,100 to \$3,000 annually. This company has provided Web site services for local governments throughout the country for more than 10 years. Recently they completed a site for Fenwick Island, DE and also have other Delaware clients: Bethany Beach and Smyrna.

After the presentation, City Council members discussed the potential vendors, what they offered and what the various price quotes were. At a previous City Council meeting, the Delaware Government Information Center, a State agency, made a presentation of services that they could provide to the City for Web site updating and hosting, all of which would be no cost to the City.

The Council concurred that the City's best option is to have City Web site update services provided by the Delaware Government Information Center. Councilperson Cochran suggested a small committee be formed, with Ms. Delaney as the Chair, which would also include City staff and interested citizens, to work on the update project with the State.

Councilperson Megginson moved that the Council enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter, and the motion was seconded by Councilperson Cochran and passed unanimously.

An Executive Session was held, beginning at 6:30.

Councilperson Cochran moved that the Council adjourn the Executive Session and the Special Meeting, and the motion was seconded by Councilperson Gaworski and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathryn C. Thomas, City Administrator